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and at least one of the light accumulation time and the
sensitivity of said photoelectric conversion means.

In each of Claims ~~2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11,~~ and
~~12,~~ in line 1 of each claim, change "video camera" to
"camera."

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject
application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. Claims
1 and 9 are independent.

The undersigned would like to thank Examiners
Christensen and Wilson for the cordial and productive in view
of July 12, 2000. The Examiners' helpful comments and
suggestions were instrumental in preparing this response.

Claims 1-12 were rejected as being unpatentable
over Toda and Tani, for the reasons noted at pages 2-7 of
the Office Action. Applicant respectfully traverses all art
rejections.

As discussed at the interview, each of independent
Claims 1 and 9 recites a novel combination of structure and
function including: (1) memory means for storing a plurality

of correcting information for correcting a change in a spectrum characteristic of said physical element, caused by a change of at least one the light transmission factor and the light transmission amount of said physical element; and (2) correcting means for reading out from said memory means the correcting information which corresponds to at least one of the light transmission factor and the light transmission amount of said physical element, according to the electrical image signal output from said photoelectric conversion means.

As to the first point, and as discussed at the interview, the Office Action notes that Toda does not specifically teach a memory means for storing a plurality of correcting information for correcting a change in a spectrum characteristic of the physical element with respect to a change of at least one of the light transmission factor in the light transmission amount. However, the Office Action finds such a structure in Tani.

As noted at the interview, Tani fails to disclose or suggest a memory storing correcting information for correcting a change in a spectrum characteristic of the physical element with respect to a change of at least one of the light transmission factor in the light transmission

amount of the physical element. In particular, Tani merely discloses a well-known memory for storing correction factors based on the mode of the camera. Nothing in Tani suggests the storing of correcting information for changing a spectrum characteristic, as claimed. Accordingly, a combination of Toda and Tani would still fail to disclose or suggest the memory means storing correcting information for correcting a change in a spectrum characteristic of the physical element, caused by a change of at least one of the light transmission factor in the light transmission amount of the physical element.

Secondly, as also discussed at the interview, Toda fails to disclose or suggest structure or function for reading out from the memory correction data which corresponds to a light transmission factor or a light transmission amount of the physical element, according to the image signal output from the image pickup element.

Likewise, Tani fails to disclose or suggest reading out correction data from the memory according to an image signal output from the image pickup element 10. Rather, Tani bases iris adjustments on photometric information output from a separate photometric circuit 30.

Accordingly, the claims are fully patentable over the cited art for both of the reasons noted above.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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